



Sustainable Tourism as a Conservation Tool

Ranthambore National Park Recommendations



Target Audience:

Local Community + Wealthy Indian Families + Global Conservation Community

Local Community

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Strengths</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Carries the most influence - Can make a difference by changing mindset and habits 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Weaknesses</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Directly affected by the Park - Livelihood is determined by the Park
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Opportunities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Education & awareness 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Threats</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Poaching habits

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jobs within the park and associated with tourism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Using the natural resources for their livelihood <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tigers eating livestock - Create obstacles to tourism by creating barriers or conflicts
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Wealthy Indian Families

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Strengths</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Private funding for the park and reserve - Access to various networks 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Weaknesses</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Not enough willing participants
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Opportunities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Create an incentive for behind the scenes access to the park - Annual reports and updates - Events for more awareness and fund raisers 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Threats</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sees an economic benefit to developing on the reserve instead of preserving it



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Conservation Community

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Strengths</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Provides funding- Spreads awareness to their own communities	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Weaknesses</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Such a large audience does not always participate
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Opportunities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Creating a call to action and a drive for people to participate<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Global Platform- Influencing other people- Create a tourism drive for those who live outside of India	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Threats</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Lack of conservations who can help take action

Sustainable Tourism Recommendations

- ★ Add a local tax for surrounding businesses
- ★ Charge entry for tourists and half price for Indian citizens
- ★ Free entry for local residents

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- ★ Monitored donation stations around the parks

OUR CALL TO ACTION

- ★ Education & Interactive learning about Tigers
 - Critically endangered, Poaching
 - Use visual learning tools, such as executive summary packets, or guided tours in the park to better understand why Tigers are important to the community and environment
- ★ Explain WHY they should care and HOW they can help
 - Bengal Tigers are an important part of Indian culture
 - If the tiger goes extinct it will impact the surrounding wildlife and reserve negatively
 - Create a brief business plan providing information on the economic benefit to the local community
 - More tourism = more money for local businesses
 - Local people can help by changing their poaching habits and ensuring the reserve is kept in unpolluted conditions
- ★ Develop Tourism Opportunities

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- Local infrastructure development near the park such as roads, hotels, and restaurants
- Create a campus for conservation education for both local communities and tourism
- Night Safari (Singapore example) for certain areas of the park
- CAT walks (WWF activity) to pick up any poaching traps and use as a learning experience to understand the dangers of poaching and its destruction of wildlife

★ Artistic Opportunities

- Camera trap programs to show the beauty of tigers from a unique perspective (Example of WWF camera trap program in Indonesia with tiger family <http://tigers.panda.org/news/story-tiger-family-camera/>)
- Find a story that is directly related to the relationship between Indian culture and tigers
 - Hitopadesha Tales: “An Old Tiger and a Greedy Traveler”
<https://www.culturalindia.net/indian-folktales/hitopadesha-tales/old-tiger-and-greedy-traveller.html>
 - A story about greed having consequences
 - “The Tiger Child”
<https://www.teachertube.com/video/the-tiger-child-177625>

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- A tale of why tigers eat their food raw and cats came to live with people
- Tigers depicted in Indian mythology
(<http://www.sanctuaryasia.com/magazines/cover-story/6828-the-tiger-soul-of-india.html>)
 - The Warli Tribe believed the Tiger was an important God. A symbol of fertility over crops, marriage, and birth.
 - The shaman, a healer who could talk to spirits and deities, is associated with the tiger

THE PLAN

★ Policy

- Ministry of Environment and Forests, provide financial and technical aid to protected areas through the scheme of integrated development of Wildlife Habitats (<http://www.moef.nic.in/division/introduction-19>)
- National Tiger Conservation Authority set up after the Indian Government amended the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 in 2006
([http://envfor.nic.in/sites/default/files/STRIPES%20-%20JAN-FEB%202011\[1\].pdf](http://envfor.nic.in/sites/default/files/STRIPES%20-%20JAN-FEB%202011[1].pdf))
- Show the data of conservation efforts with increasing the number of tigers at Ranthambore Park and pitch the idea of Night Safari

★ Sustainable Tourism within the park

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- More security hired for both day and night shifts to manage and maintain the safety of the park and the local people who live on the reserve.
- Build a more secure location for the safety of both the animals and the people
- Management of Tourism in educate and behavior to minimize any destruction or changes in the Protected Area
- ISO 9001 → quality management in infrastructure and services within the park

★ Carrying Capacity

- 1) Establish capacity regulations within the park based on safety measures for the tigers and other wildlife
- 2) Use data collection from other successfully managed parks
- 3) Identify the necessary laws for establishing capacity regulations
- 4) If policy regulation is not possible, then create innovative ways to slow foot traffic within the park (Example of Hanauma Bay, required to view 15 min informational video, limited parking)

★ Stakeholder Engagement & Conflicts

- Key Stakeholders are local communities, land owners, local businesses, wealthy Indian families, WWF Tigers Alive, TOFTigers, and the Indian Government

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- The reserve in Ranthambore poses conflicts with the local people who live there
- Having the protected area has stopped infrastructure development and affected the livelihood of some of the people who relied on the natural resources
- Find a solution for the local people who rely on the Ranthambore reserve (poaching etc)
- The development of the National Park has created conflict with the local people who live there and has stopped the economic development within the reserve

Opportunities for Return on Investment in the Wild & the Local Community

- ❖ Increasing the Tiger population through added policy and conservation protection
- ❖ Growing economic development for local businesses by creating more jobs at Ranthambore Park
- ❖ Develop local infrastructure in creating an educational facility for the local residents to learn more about tigers and conservation efforts
- ❖ Retaining cultural heritage and creating a passion for future generations through continued story telling of Indian mythology of tigers

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